



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: February 25, 2014

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **St. Anthony Parkway Bridge over BNSF Northtown Yard Project:
Approval, Designation, and Set Public Hearing**

Recommendation:

- A. Approve the St. Anthony Parkway Project proposed bridge and layout, including California St NE and Main St NE
- B. Pass a Resolution designating the proposed location and improvements be made for the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge Project including St. Anthony Parkway over BNSF Northtown Yard, California St NE and Main St. NE.
- C. Adopt a Committee Report receiving the cost estimate of \$1,300,000 for the reconstruction of California St. NE and Main St. NE, the list of benefited properties, direct the City Engineer to prepare proposed Special Improvement Assessments against the list of benefited properties by applying the 2014 Uniform Assessment Rate for Resurfacing and direct the City Clerk to give notice of a Project Approval and Assessment Public Hearing to be held on April 15, 2014 before the Transportation and Public Works Committee.

Previous Directives:

- November 12, 2013 – Authorizing acquisition through negotiations or condemnation of temporary construction easements and permanent easements across the parcels therein for transportation-related uses.
- July 19, 2013 - Authorizing execution of a contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. for design services and authorizing signing the Memorandum of Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- March 7, 2013 - Authorizing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engineering Services
- July 2, 2010 - Resolution 2010R-333, 2010R-334 Amending the 2010 Capital Improvement and PW-Transportation Capital Agency Appropriations by \$600,000 upon execution of State Grant Agreement No SG-2009-072.
- July 2, 2010 - Resolution 2010R-331 Authorizing execution of State Grant Agreement No SG-2009-072 between Minneapolis and the Metropolitan Council.

- April 24, 2009 - Resolution 2009R-180 Authorizing proper City officers to submit the St. Anthony Bridge Project application for Member-Designated High Priority Project
- May 5, 2007 Authorization to submit an application for federal funds from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for the St Anthony Bridge Project with a recommendation to commit City funds should the project be selected per federal requirements.
- December 13, 2004 - Resolution 2004R-582 and Resolution 2004R-583 Request to issue & sell bonds for 2005 Capital Program
- December 13, 2004 - Resolution 2004R-580 Adoption of 2005-2010 Capital Program and fixing the maximum amounts for 2005 to be expended by the various funds
- December 9, 1999 - Resolution 99R -427 Request to issue & sell bonds for 2000 Capital Program
- December 9, 1999 - Resolution 99R -426 Adoption of 2000-2004 Capital Program and fixing the maximum amounts for 2000 to be expended by the various funds

Department Information:

Prepared by: Ole Mersinger, Project Engineer, PW-TP&E
Suzette Hjermstad, Supervisor, PW Special Assessment Office 643-2401

Approved by: _____

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Ole Mersinger, Project Engineer, PW-TP&E

Financial Impact

Special assessments against benefited properties.

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Public hearing notices to be mailed to benefited property owners

Neighborhood Meetings: Two open house meetings in past four months

City Goals: Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city

Supporting Information

Background

Public Works has been working to make improvements to the Northtown Rail Yard Bridge since the late 1980's. The bridge is a Warren through truss bridge originally constructed by a predecessor of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co. (BNSF) in 1925 to carry St. Anthony Parkway over the BNSF Northtown Rail Yard. Though the bridge's poor condition has been addressed to ensure public safety, it has continued to decline. The bridge is structurally deficient, has a sufficiency rating of 2.0 out of 100, is fracture critical, and is posted for Vehicle Load and Vertical Clearance Restrictions.

The Federal Highway Administration has given initial approval to replace the bridge and work is ongoing for a replacement structure. The replacement structure consists of three spans, with the westerly span being a 305 foot truss structure. The new bridge will consist of two 14-foot drive lanes, a 14-foot multi-use trail on the south side of the bridge and a 10-foot sidewalk on the north side of the bridge.

The project team also has solicited community input on the various design elements associated with the new bridge including the railing, lighting, color, and details on the abutments and piers. This input has been collected during six community advisory committee meetings since August 2013 and two neighborhood open houses in January 2014 and October 2013.

In addition to replacing the bridge, Main St NE and California St NE will be realigned to improve sight lines at each end of the bridge. California St between 31st Ave NE and St. Anthony Parkway will be reconstructed. Main Street is a 40-year-old Municipal State Aid roadway with a pavement condition index of 71. The roadway has been previously seal coated three times and would warrant a pavement overlay within 5 years. Public Works staff has met with the property owner adjacent to the Main Street Roadway project. The reconstructed Main Street will include two 18-foot drive lanes and an 8-foot side walk to accommodate the bus stop on the east side of Main Street.

California Street is an unpaved oil-dirt local roadway in poor condition. Curb and gutter and sidewalk are currently not present on the roadway. Primary users of the roadway are the adjacent industrial property owners. Public Works staff met with the property owners adjacent to the California Street Roadway Project with the exception of the property owner at 3107 California St NE. All property owners expressed the need to reconstruct California Street. The reconstructed roadway will consist of two 14-foot drive lanes, curb and gutter, new catch basins, and an 8-foot sidewalk behind the easterly curb.

As provided in Chapter 10, Section 8 of the City Charter, a list of parcels with owner's names, as nearly as can be readily ascertained which would be benefited by and assessed for the St. Anthony Parkway Project is on file with the City Engineer's Special Assessment Office.

Cost Estimate and Funding

The current appropriated funding for the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge Project is as follows:

Federal	\$ 8,900,000
State	\$ 7,600,000
Local	\$12,500,000
Total	\$29,000,000

The current Project Cost Estimate for the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge Project is as follows.

Bridge Replacement	\$20,300,000
California St and Main St Reconstruction	\$ 1,300,000
Project Management and Engineering	\$ 8,500,000
Total	\$30,100,000

Minneapolis Park Board Staff will submit a 2015 funding request to their board. Public Works is also discussing a funding contribution from BNSF to address the financial gap.

Special Assessments

All parcels located within the influence zone of the California St NE reconstruction and the Main St NE reconstruction are classified as non-residential. The standard reconstruction special assessment rate for these properties by applying the 2014 Uniform Assessment Rates is \$2.39/ sq. ft. Public Works staff is recommending the benefitting parcels be assessed at the 2014 resurfacing project rate of \$0.60/sq. ft. for the following reasons:

- The improvements also serve bridge replacement needs.
- Based on the construction estimate, the benefitting parcels' contributing share of project costs would be disproportionate if the reconstruction assessment rate were to be applied.
- Application of the resurfacing rate would result in assessments that meet or exceed the benefit to each parcel, as measured by increase in fair market value.

Attachments – Maps and Renderings

Cc:

Jack Qvale, Secretary, Board of Estimate and Taxation

T&PW – Your Committee recommends passage and summary publication of the accompanying Resolution and its accompanying Committee Report designating the locations and streets to be improved in the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge, California St and Main St Reconstruction Project, Special Improvement of Existing Street No 9698.

Reich

**ST ANTHONY PARKWAY BRIDGE (OVER BNSF NORTHTOWN YARD)
CALIFORNIA ST AND MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING STREET NO 9698**

Designating the improvement of certain existing streets in the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge, California St and Main St Street Reconstruction Project at the locations described hereinafter.

Resolved by the City council of the City of Minneapolis:

That the following existing streets within the City of Minneapolis are hereby designated to be improved, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 10, Section 8 of the Minneapolis City Charter, by paving with plant mix asphalt, with concrete curb and gutter all on a stabilized base, new catch basins and including other street paving related improvements as needed.

California St from 31st to St Anthony Parkway;

Main St from St Anthony Parkway north approximately 640 feet;

St Anthony Parkway from Columbia Av NE to 4th St NE.

T&PW – Your Committee, having received a cost estimate of \$1,300,000 for street reconstruction improvements and a list of benefited properties for certain locations in the St. Anthony Parkway Bridge (over BNSF Northtown Yard), California St and Main St Reconstruction Project, special Improvement of Existing Street No 9698, as designated by Resolution No 2014R-_____ passed March 7, 2014, now recommends that the City Engineer be directed to prepare a proposed Street Resurfacing Special Improvement Assessment against the list of benefited properties by applying the 2014 Uniform Assessment Rates as per Resolution 2013R-509, passed November 12, 2013.

Your Committee further recommends that the City Clerk be directed to give notice of a public hearing to be held by the Transportation and Public Works Committee on April 15, 2014 in accordance with Chapter 10, Section 8 of the Minneapolis City Charter and Section 24.180 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, to consider approving the resurfacing of the above designated street locations, and to consider the amount proposed to be assessed to each benefited property and the amount to be funded by the City.